

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 03424 031135Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /028 W
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R 031120Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4463
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NASSAU

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 3424

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBAK, SY

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL CHECK ON ORBIT MARKETING CO., LTD.

1. SYRIAN BUSINESSMAN M. SAID HADDAD CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN BILKED OUT OF \$215,000 COMMISSION BY AMERICAN FIRM ORBIT MARKETING CO., LTD (AKA ORBIT REFINING GROUP, LTD., ORBIT EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LTD), GEORGETOWN, GRAND CAYMAN, CAYMAN ISLANDS, TEL: 94277/8/9. HADDAD SAYS HE SPENT SOME \$20,000 OF HIS OWN MONEY IN ARRANGING CONTACTS BETWEEN ORBIT REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICIALS OF EMIRATE OF EL-FUGEIRA, UAE, TO STRIKE OIL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT DEAL. HADDAD RECEIVED IN PAYMENT \$215,000 CHECK DRAWN ON MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST CO., NEW YORK, ON "ORBIT EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LTD." ACCOUNT AND SIGNED BY

ORBIT "CHAIRMEN" JOHN A. SEVERSON AND GRIMM P. MASON.
CHECK BOUNCED DUE TO INSUFFICIENT FUNDS. (CHECK NO. 829, MAY 1, 1975)

2. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. USDOC: PLEASE CABLE US COMMERCIAL CHECK INFO ON ORBIT. HADDAD'S CONTACT WAS HUBERT F. LAUGHARN III OF "ORBIT CONSULTING SERVICES LTD." WITH US OFFICES AT 609 S. GRAND AVE., LOS ANGELES,
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CALIF., 90017, TEL: 213-623-5185, AND 488 MADISON

AVE., NEW YORK, NY 10022, TEL: 212-371-6220.

B. BEIRUT: LAUGHARN WAS HEADQUARTERED BEIRUT AT
STARCO NORTH 715, POBOX 6270, TEL: 259-481. WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON HIM OR OFFICE.

C. ABU DHABI: HADDAD PRODUCED COPIES OF LETTERS
BETWEEN SEVERSON AND MASON AND SHEIKH OF
EL-FUGEIRA, RAJAB ABDUL RAHMAN, AND GOVERNOR
HAMAD BEN MOHAMAD AL-SHARKI. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY
INFORMATION ON ORBIT ACTIVITIES IN YOUR AREA.

D. NASSAU: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON THIS
ALLEGEDLY-GRAND CAYMAN BASED OUTFIT.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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